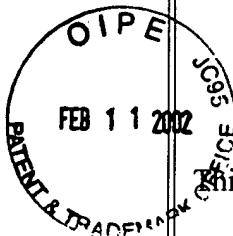


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PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

This application is a continuation of :

Serial No. 09/271,304 filed March 17, 1999, now
Patent No. 6,319,277 B1, which is a continuation of Serial
No. 08/708,651, filed September 5, 1996, now Patent No.
5,906,639, which is a continuation of U.S. Patent No. 5,575,816,
filed August 12, 1994.

Applicant(s): Rudnick et al.

Examiner: Isabella, David

Serial No.: 09/977,823

Group Art Unit: 3738

Filed: October 15, 2001

Docket: 498-67 CON 3

Confirmation No. 4655

Dated: January 18, 2002

For: NESTED STENT (AS AMENDED)

I hereby certify this correspondence is being deposited with
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Date January 18, 2002

Signature Barbara Kemmejn

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

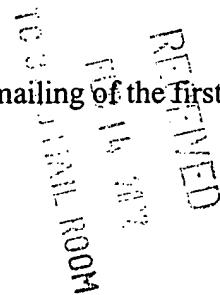
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

In fulfillment of the requirements of candor and good faith set forth in 37 C.F.R. §1.56,
Applicants submit herewith the following Information Disclosure Statement.

The present application is a continuation of the above noted parent application, the
Examiner's attention is therefore invited to the references cited therein. For convenience of the

Examiner, the references are listed on the attached form PTO 1449. However, pursuant to MPEP §2001.06(b), no separate copies of the references are provided herewith.



As this Information Disclosure Statement is being filed prior to the mailing of the first Office Action on the merits, it is believed to be timely filed without a fee.

Should the Examiner have any questions regarding this information disclosure statement, the Examiner is invited to contact Applicant's undersigned attorney at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive ink, appearing to read "Salvatore J. Abbruzzese".

Salvatore J. Abbruzzese
Registration No.: 30,152
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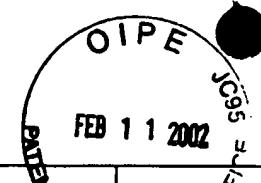


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U. S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE		ATTY. DOCKET NO. 498-67 CON 3	SERIAL NO. 09/977,823
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT		APPLICANT Rudnick et al.	
(Use several sheets if necessary)		FILING DATE October 15, 2001	GROUP 3738

U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	3,657,744	04/25/75	Ersek			
	4,580,568	04/08/86	Gianturco			
	4,649,922	03/17/87	Wiktor			
	4,665,918	05/19/87	Garza et al.			
	4,733,665	04/29/88	Palmaz			
	4,739,762	05/26/88	Palmaz			
	4,760,849	08/02/88	Kropf			
	4,762,128	08/09/88	Rosenbluth			
	4,768,507	09/06/88	Fischell et al.			
	4,776,337	10/11/88	Palmaz			
	4,800,882	01/31/89	Gianturco			
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	4,913,141	04/03/90	Hillstead			
	4,922,905	05/08/90	Strecker			
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	4,954,126	09/04/90	Wallsten			
	4,969,458	11/13/90	Wiktor			
	5,019,085	05/28/91	Hillstead			



EXAMINER INITIAL	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	5,019,090	05/28/91	Pinchuk			TO MAIL ROOM FEB 14 1992
	5,026,377	06/25/91	Burton et al.			RECEIVED
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EXAMINER INITIAL	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION	
						YES	NO
	PCT/US93/00355	07/22/93	PCT				
	EPO 177 330 A3	04/09/86	EPO				
	EPO 282 175 A1	09/14/88	EPO				



OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

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EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication with applicant.